(b) the number of Indian Seamen working on ships in the Gulf War Zones?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Since the start of the Iran-Iraq war, 3 Indian Seamen engaged through Seamen's Employment Offices Bombay/Calcutta have been killed in attacks on ships. Besides this, an Indian national working on a UAE fishing boat also has been led when the boat was attacked by a U.S. Naval Ship in the area.

(b) There is no fixed number of Indian flag vessels or foreign flag vessels who may be employing Indian Seamen which operate in the War zone. It is, therefore, not possible to indicate the number of Indian Seamen working on ships in the War Zone.

Protection of tribal culture

@2555. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware that rapid industrialization of the tribal belts of India is destroying the tribal culture and tribal way of life in our country;

(b) whether any study has so far been made by Government;

(c) if so, what are the recommendations of the study undertaken:

(d) what steps are being taken by Government to project the tribal culture which is being threatened by rapid industrialization; and

(e) if no steps are being taken, what are the reasons therefor?

@Previously Unstarred Question 2154, transferred from the 27th November, 1987.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Telecommunication services in Asansol-Raniganj

2556. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any communication regarding expansion and improvement of telecommunication services in Asansol Raniganj industrial complex; and

(b) if so, the details of action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir. Communications from different sources, particularly from Ranijang Chamber of Commerce have been received for expansion and improvement of telecommunication services of Asansol-Raniganj industrial comlpex.

(b) The following actions have been taken:—

(i) In March, 1987 Asansol exchange has been expanded from 2400 lines to 3000 lines. 500 new connections will be previded durin the period 1987-88.

(ii) 2000 lines equipment of I.C.P type has been allotted for installation in Raniganj replacing the present one. This is likely to come up in 1990-91.

(iii) Barakar exchange will be expanded from 600 lines to 800 lines by March, 1988.

(iv) Two co-axial groups one between Calcutta-Raniganj and the other between Asansol-Raniganj have been introduced to increase the trunk circuits. One new group between Raniganj and Durgapur has been introduced on microwave system to improve trunk working between these two places.

(v) To improve upon the working of junction circuits, two 30 chhannel PCM systems, one between Asansol-Neamatpur and the other between Asansol-Barakar have been installed.

Passenger facilities at stations between Howrah and Burdhaman

2557. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide drinking water, electric lights, sheds, over-bridges etc. to all stations between Howrah and Bardhaman (both on main and chord line);

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what is the number and names of those stations on the above lines having these facilities at present; and

(d) what are the steps taken by Government to provide these facilities to the remaining stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir. Passenger amenities are provided at stations as per norms laid down

(b) there is a proposal to provide electricity at Porabazar and a foot-over-bridge at Nimo Halt Station.

(c) A statement showing the names of the stations and the facilities available is enclosed. See below)

(d) These facilities have been provided at these stations as required. Consistent with the growth of traffic, these facilities will be improved on a programmed basis.

Statement

S. No.	Name of Station	Amenities available			
		Drinking water	Electricity	Sheds	Foot-over-bridge
1.	Lilna	Available	Available	Available	Available
2.	Belur	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.
3.	Bally	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.
4.	Uttarpara	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.
5.	Hind Motar	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.
6.	Konnagar	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.
7.	Rishra	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.
8.	Serampore	Do.	Do.	Do.	Not Available
9.	Seoraphuli	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.